

To whom it may concern:

I am writing to urge you not to repeal the rules that allow further consolidation of media television and newspaper to be owned by one company. As a community advocate with two advanced degrees in journalism, I am deeply concerned about the erosion of the quality of our news media. The problems that accompany our current trend toward corporate ownership of the media are troublesome enough. I ask you to please take what you are doing into consideration. Like any healthy system, the media industry needs diversity to do its job well. In our small city of 200,000, if one company were allowed to own the sole newspaper AND the primary television station, that company would have a lock on distribution of information for this region. Already, the impact of consolidated media ownership affects our daily lives. I cannot imagine if we were to move even further away from the journalistic goals of unbiased, uncensored, fair, and balanced news reporting.